

## Volume 1, Issue 9

October—December  
2009Maricopa County Animal  
Care and Control

## Trailin' Tails Newsletter

## Sweet Success for Snickers



One of the many cats that has passed through MCACC's doors looking for a forever home— he got one!

## Inside this issue:

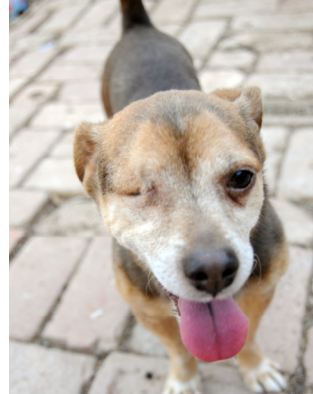
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In May 2009, a 7-year-old chocolate brown Chihuahua-Jack Russell terrier mix dog arrived at MCACC's west shelter. One of the more than 100 animals that passed through the receiving doors that day, "Rocky" was about to embark on an amazing journey that would change his life and lead to his new forever home.

Rocky was surrendered to the shelter because sadly, his owner could no longer afford to take care of him and made the difficult decision to give him up. On a balmy spring day, with his future in the hands of strangers, Rocky settled into his kennel and began working the crowds.

Rocky had a lot going for him. With his adorable face and compact "terrier" body, he's the kind of guy who charms everyone he meets and his spunky personality did not go unnoticed. During his stay at the shelter, he quickly became a favorite among staff and volunteers.

He got along famously with a continually changing roster of kennel mates, including a feisty Chihuahua who enjoyed picking on him. Week after week, Rocky would enthusiastically greet visitors with his "happy yap" and "helicopter tail". Although many potential adopters spent time getting to know him, there was always one thing that made them hesitate—little dude had a bum eye. The MCACC clinic



staff had determined that Rocky's funny-looking right eye, which was just slightly larger than the left, was not painful for him, but acknowledged that at some point, it would need to be removed to make him more comfortable. This type of surgery is relatively uncomplicated and dogs adapt quite well to living with one eye.

Then one day in late July, Rocky's ship came in. A volunteer who had been interested in him since he came into the shelter, decided to adopt him and take care of the eye surgery right away. When she contacted Community Outreach Supervisor, Samantha Spinelle, to see if the dog was still available, she was told that Rocky was, at that very moment, in the clinic getting his eye surgery! It was decided to do the surgery to improve Rocky's adoptability. A few phone calls later, arrangements were made for the volunteer to adopt Rocky and take him home the next day. Because the shelter is funded mainly by dog license fee, service contracts, donations, and shelter fees (not tax dollars as many people believe), the volunteer made a donation to cover the cost of the surgery. Snickers (renamed because he is nutty and chocolate colored), went home to a cushy, quiet room and a follow-up exam with his new personal vet.

Today, Snickers is recovering well and enjoying life with his new canine brothers and sisters including Delgado, Nina and Pugsley, all MCACC alumni.

## Students Give to Homeless Animals

Students at Tonalea Elementary wanted to help the homeless animals at MCACC. They decided to hold a donation drive at the end of the school year. The second graders were able to collect many boxes of donations, plus \$500. Wow, with caring, hard-working kids like these, the future looks bright for the homeless animals of Maricopa County.





One of the many dogs that have come through our doors needing a new home—he got one!

## Vet's Corner: Kennel Training

So you brought your new forever friend home and you never want him to see the inside of a kennel again. I am hoping to convince you that that may not be the best plan.

When living on their own, dogs and cats like to look for safe havens when there is something that is upsetting to them. They like to know that they will not be attacked from several directions, so a "cave" with one opening is ideal. This translates to providing a similar type structure for them when they come home. You may wonder what could possibly be scary at home? Some of our thunderstorms can produce a large amount of anxiety in a dog (or cat) that has thunderstorm fears. By providing a safe haven, you protect them from escaping the house and getting traumatized as he runs out into the storm and deeper into danger. It also protects your house from costly repairs if your pet tries to dig his own safe place.

Some animals have fears of certain types of people, or things in your home. What are you going to do if one day you have a contractor come to make repairs in your home and your pet gets scared and becomes fear aggressive (feels he has to bite to protect himself)? Many animals get scared about something as normal as a broom or the vacuum cleaner.

At some point in time, you may want to take a vacation and if you can't bring your pet along or find someone to watch him, you will have to board him. There are some very fine boarding facilities but they all include kennels for a portion of the day at the very least and the bulk of the day at the most. Or, if he gets to come with you on a flight, you still have to kennel him for the trip. If your pet ever comes down with some disease requiring a short hospital stay (for diagnostics or medical intervention)- what then? How about when you introduce a new forever friend? You want to control the territorial marking to protect your things and keep your house from smelling bad enough to chase your people friends away.

The list goes on and on. The good news is that they are mostly short intervals, when you would want to have your pet kennel trained. So how do you do it? There are probably as many ways to do it right as to do it wrong. One suggestion is to feed your new pet in a kennel when you first get him home. Have the water bowl in there also and a nice, comfy blanket. Close the door while he is eating and open it when he is done. When he goes in on his own, throw some treats in there (best to make it seem like it is "pennies from heaven" and not directly from you). Be sure to periodically close him in at night and when you let him out in the morning the first stop should be outside to let him relieve himself, then lots of love (and maybe some play time with you). Cats can be trained this same way.

### Animal First Aid Kit:

- First Aid Book
- Gauze Pads
- Bandages
- Cotton Tipped Applicators
- Muzzle
- Cold Pack
- Antiseptic Wipes
- Disposable Gloves



**Don't miss out on Woofstock 2009! November 21, 9:00 AM—2:00 PM**

**Tumbleweed Park 745 E. Germann Road, Chandler**

Woofstock has something for the entire family—from the kids to the family dog. Come on out for a fun day. You can participate in a dog walk or sit back and listen to some great music. There will be contests for your pooch and some fun kids activities. There will also be: Dog Demonstration Groups; Pet Activity Booths; Mini Bark Park; Pet Adoptions; Vaccinations; Food Vendors and much more!

## Employee Profile: Public Information Officer

The "county pound" has always gotten a bad rap. And it's Aprille Hollis' job to change that. As Public Information Officer for Maricopa County Animal Care & Control (MCACC), Aprille works to correct common misconceptions about the agency. For example, many people assume that MCACC euthanizes every animal that comes in. But in fact, it has not put down a healthy, adoptable animal in nearly three years. This is due to several factors, including a good foster program, a partnership with over 60 area rescue groups who help foster and adopt out county animals, and a very successful spay-neuter program called SNAP.

These are the kinds of things Aprille works to publicize every day. With a background in video production and writing, she works with every segment of the media to inform the public about MCACC and all the animals that need homes. On any given day, she may be representing the agency at community events like the Maricopa County Home & Garden Show, speaking to schoolchildren about the importance of responsible pet care, writing a press release, putting together the Trailin' Tails newsletter, or appearing with an adoptable pet on a local TV or radio station. (See page 7 for a schedule of media pet appearances).

Aprille's favorite and most rewarding part of the job is showing off some of the wonderful pets available



for adoption. Sometimes she chooses a highly adoptable cat or dog; other times she might pick one who needs a little extra help or maybe an older pet who is overlooked at the shelter.

In the two+ years she has been at MCACC, she, like many on the staff, sometimes brings a dog or cat into her office that needs a little extra help or attention. It may be a tiny kitten that needs frequent feedings, or a dog that needs to build confidence around people. Last year, Aprille adopted an 8-year-old black lab she named Walter. Now Walter has become something of a shelter mascot, coming with Aprille to work a day or two each week. Mid-week has become known around the shelter offices as "Walter Wednesdays."

Although Aprille has never worked in the field of animal welfare before, she is a lifelong animal lover, and always had pets growing up. Handling media and community relations for MCACC provides a perfect way for her to combine her skills and passion.

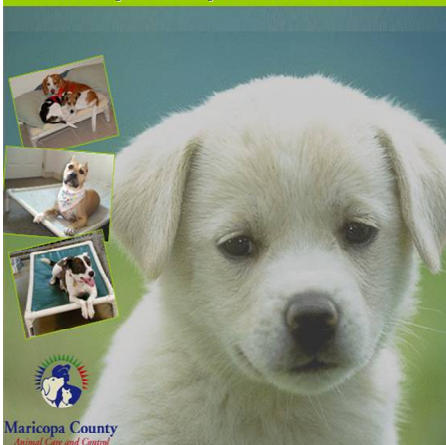
If you would like Aprille to make an appearance at your function, visit your child's school, or simply provide you with information about the shelter and its programs, you can contact her at [ahollis@mail.maricopa.gov](mailto:ahollis@mail.maricopa.gov).



One of the many dogs MCACC has taken in needing forever homes.

## Comfort a homeless pet.

**Maricopa County Animal Care & Control's shelter dogs need beds!**



"I would like a warm bed while I am waiting for my forever home. The floor here at the shelter is hard and a Kuranda bed would enable me to have a soft, elevated bed to lie on during long nights. Some of my friends already have a donated bed, but I don't have one yet..."

Kuranda beds improve the lives of shelter dogs by relieving stress, discomfort and improve recovery time of injured animals. Animals also become more adoptable, feel safer and have a better quality of shelter life before being rescued.

Our shelter dogs desperately need beds which they are currently without. Please consider donating one or two! Go to: <http://www.kuranda.com/shop/donate.asp> - then select [Maricopa County Animal Care & Control](http://www.kuranda.com/shop/donate.asp) and order away!

**DONATE A BED ONLINE → [www.Kuranda.com](http://www.Kuranda.com)**

## Spay and neuter your pets

*Get your dogs and cats spayed or neutered! MCACC gets in over 55,000 animals a year, many of them unwanted kittens and puppies. These innocent animals have little chance of survival in our shelters—they need too much care. Please help us stop unnecessary euthanasia—spay and neuter your pets! MCACC's Spay Neuter Assistance Program (SNAP) offers a free spay or neuter surgery for your cat or dog. Please visit us on the web at [www.pets.maricopa.gov](http://www.pets.maricopa.gov) for more information.*





The Pet Rescue Foundation

The collection and publication of this data is sponsored by Maddie's Fund®, [www.maddiesfund.org](http://www.maddiesfund.org)



One of the lucky cats to find a new home through MCACC this year.

## Rabies Clinic

Specials: \$20

West and East Shelters

Sunday - 11—5:30 p.m.

Tues—Thurs 9—11 a.m.

	NAME OF ORGANIZATION: MARICOPA COUNTY ANIMAL CARE AND CONTROL Animal Statistic Table	Dog	Cat	Total
	DATE OF REPORT: (JANUARY/2008 – DECEMBER/2008)			
<b>A</b>	<b>BEGINNING SHELTER COUNT (January 1, 2008)</b>	<b>1049</b>	<b>506</b>	<b>1555</b>
	<b>INTAKE (Live Dogs &amp; Cats Only)</b>			
	<i>From the Public</i>			
	Healthy	8765	2143	<b>10908</b>
	Treatable – Rehabilitatable	10068	5077	<b>15145</b>
	Treatable – Manageable	7787	2894	<b>10681</b>
	Unhealthy & Untreatable	17300	3506	<b>20806</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>Subtotal Intake from the Public</b>	<b>43920</b>	<b>13620</b>	<b>57540</b>
	<i>Incoming Transfers from Organizations within Community/Coalition</i>			
	Healthy	0	1	<b>1</b>
	Treatable – Rehabilitatable	0	0	<b>0</b>
	Treatable – Manageable	0	0	<b>0</b>
	Unhealthy & Untreatable	7	0	<b>7</b>
<b>C</b>	<b>Subtotal Intake from Incoming Transfers from Orgs within Community/Coalition</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>8</b>
	<i>Incoming Transfers from Organizations outside Community/Coalition</i>			
<b>D</b>	<b>Subtotal Intake from Incoming Transfers from Orgs outside Community/Coalition</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
	<i>From Owners/Guardians Requesting Euthanasia</i>			
<b>E</b>	<b>Subtotal Intake from Owners/Guardians Requesting Euthanasia</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>F</b>	<b>Total Intake [B + C + D + E]</b>	<b>43927</b>	<b>13621</b>	<b>57548</b>
<b>G</b>	<b>Owner/Guardian Requested Euthanasia (Unhealthy &amp; Untreatable Only)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>H</b>	<b>ADJUSTED TOTAL INTAKE [F minus G]</b>	<b>43927</b>	<b>13621</b>	<b>57548</b>
	<b>ADOPTIONS (only dogs and cats adopted by the public)</b>			
	Healthy	7308	1588	<b>8896</b>
	Treatable – Rehabilitatable	2651	1338	<b>3989</b>
	Treatable – Manageable	885	140	<b>1025</b>
	Unhealthy & Untreatable	109	16	<b>125</b>
<b>I</b>	<b>TOTAL ADOPTIONS</b>	<b>10953</b>	<b>3082</b>	<b>14035</b>
	<b>OUTGOING TRANSFERS to Organizations within Community/Coalition</b>			
	Healthy	860	454	<b>1314</b>
	Treatable – Rehabilitatable	774	1115	<b>1889</b>
	Treatable – Manageable	516	235	<b>751</b>
	Unhealthy & Untreatable	244	9	<b>253</b>
<b>J</b>	<b>TOTAL OUTGOING TRANSFERS to Orgs within Community/Coalition</b>	<b>2394</b>	<b>1813</b>	<b>4207</b>
	<b>OUTGOING TRANSFERS to Organizations outside Community/Coalition</b>			
	Healthy	374	61	<b>435</b>
	Treatable – Rehabilitatable	739	399	<b>1138</b>
	Treatable – Manageable	1028	139	<b>1167</b>
	Unhealthy & Untreatable	236	3	<b>239</b>
<b>K</b>	<b>TOTAL OUTGOING TRANSFERS to Orgs outside Community/Coalition</b>	<b>2377</b>	<b>602</b>	<b>2979</b>
<b>L</b>	<b>RETURN TO OWNER/GUARDIAN</b>	<b>5486</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>5579</b>
	<b>DOGS &amp; CATS EUTHANASIZED</b>			
<b>M</b>	Healthy <i>(Includes Owner/Guardian Requested Euthanasia)</i>	0	0	<b>0</b>
<b>N</b>	Treatable – Rehabilitatable <i>(Includes Owner/Guardian Requested Euthanasia)</i>	1764	2192	<b>3956</b>
<b>O</b>	Treatable – Manageable <i>(Includes Owner/Guardian Requested Euthanasia)</i>	5180	2368	<b>7548</b>
<b>P</b>	Unhealthy & Untreatable <i>(Includes Owner/Guardian Requested Euthanasia)</i>	15555	3289	<b>18844</b>
<b>Q</b>	<b>Total Euthanasia [M + N + O + P]</b>	<b>22499</b>	<b>7849</b>	<b>30348</b>
<b>R</b>	<b>Owner/Guardian Requested Euthanasia (Unhealthy &amp; Untreatable Only)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>S</b>	<b>ADJUSTED TOTAL EUTHANASIA [Q minus R]</b>	<b>22499</b>	<b>7849</b>	<b>30348</b>
<b>T</b>	<b>SUBTOTAL OUTCOMES [I + J + K + L + S] Excludes Owner/Guardian Requested Euthanasia (Unhealthy &amp; Untreatable Only)</b>	<b>43709</b>	<b>13439</b>	<b>57148</b>
<b>U</b>	<b>DIED OR LOST IN SHELTER/CARE</b>	<b>218</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>388</b>
<b>V</b>	<b>TOTAL OUTCOMES [T + U] Excludes Owner/Guardian Requested Euthanasia (Unhealthy &amp; Untreatable Only)</b>	<b>43927</b>	<b>13609</b>	<b>57536</b>
<b>W</b>	<b>ENDING SHELTER COUNT (December 31, 2008)</b>	<b>1049</b>	<b>506</b>	<b>1555</b>

## MCACC Employee Honored as a Hero

Janet Aviles, MCACC's Foster Care Coordinator was honored as KZZP-FM's June Hero of the Month. Following is the letter that won her the honor: Janet is the foster care coordinator for Maricopa County Animal Care & Control's East Mesa facility. I am a volunteer there who has fostered several animals and have gotten to know Janet as a result.

I have honestly never met someone as dedicated to their job and truly committed to caring for animals as Janet. Janet deals with every animal rescue organization in the valley, and helps in placing animals that are either sick, injured, or need help socializing with them or for foster parents as well. She has probably the busiest job of all positions at the East Valley Shelter. If she doesn't have her phone to her ear, she is out on the floor finding homes for animals at risk of being euthanized.

The most impressive thing about Janet is no matter how stressful her job is she always has a smile on her face. She is never impatient with anyone and always makes time for anything anyone needs from her. She is truly dedicated to her job and is an inspiration and example of someone who does what she truly loves.

If you'd like to receive this newsletter electronically, please visit us at : [www.pets.maricopa.gov](http://www.pets.maricopa.gov)

## Puppy Gets a New Lease on Life

"Sonny", a little two-month old black Pit Bull puppy came to MCACC with horrible burns that covered his entire back. Little Sonny spent a few weeks getting hydrotherapy and creams to help him heal. The clinic staff then spent some surgical time removing dead tissue on his little body. Through all the treatments, Sonny lived up to his name. He was sweet, even when in pain.



He was ready with an enthusiastic greeting every time somebody came by his kennel. He gave wet, sloppy puppy kisses even while wearing an uncomfortable collar that kept him from licking his wounds.

Many people saw Sonny's story and wrote letters wanting to be his new family. After interviews and careful consideration, Sonny found his new home with the Sweitzers, where everyone is happy.



MCACC took in over 55,000 dogs and cats last year. Please give one a good home!

**GoodSearch**  
powered by YAHOO! SEARCH

Search the web with [www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com) and money from Yahoo advertisers will go to FACC's – Friends of Animal Care & Control without you spending a dime!



**7th Annual Hero Awards**

**Saturday, October 24, 6:00 p.m.**

**JW Marriott Desert Ridge**

**Resort & Spa**

Dinner, silent and live auctions, and program to honor hero animals in our community, benefitting Friends of Animal Care and Control (FACCs). To attend: 602-626-5073 [karenialf@yahoo.com](mailto:karenialf@yahoo.com)

## VOLUNTEER

Believe it or not, MCACC still needs more dedicated volunteers. Help is needed to assist with adoptions and socializing animals. This is a rewarding and dynamic volunteer experience waiting for you. Whether you are interested in walking dogs, petting kittens, or assisting with adoptions (at the shelter or off-site), there is a way you can help! MCACC volunteers have the ability to make a difference in the lives and outcomes of our shelter pets. Become an integral part of the transition from shelter pet to forever homes. Contact our Volunteer Coordinator at (602) 506-8133 or by email: [sspinelle@mail.maricopa.gov](mailto:sspinelle@mail.maricopa.gov)



Help us control the pet overpopulation problem. Get you pet spayed or neutered!

## The Great Southwest Scooter Rally

October 17, 2009 10:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

Joes' Farm Grill 3000 E. Ray Road, Gilbert



Great food, Live Music, Raffles, Contests, Scooter Gear, MCACC Adoption Bus, ASU Museum; Crafts for kids, Group Scooter Ride to end event. Bring the family!



**Guest Appearance by: Carlos Alazraqui, Scooter enthusiast and the Star of Reno 911 and the voice of the Taco Bell Chihuahua.**

## MCACC Employee Anniversaries

Maricopa County Animal Care and Control has many loyal employees. We wanted to take a moment to say thank you to all of our hard working employees who have been with the shelter for more than 5 years.

- 5—10 Years** Pamela Newman, Sheener Perry, Paula Apodaca, Joe Aviles, Timothy Rummel, Stephany Gallegos, Nancy Harris, Al Aguinaga, Dennis Sherlock, Michaelangelo Murillo
- 11—20 Years** Peter Martin, Paul Fogel, Karen Dickey, Stephen Flores, Diana Crothers, Linda Singleton, Timothy Sanger
- 21—29 Years** Richard Stevenson, Teresa Vasquez, William Cutillo
- 30+ Years** Kenneth Malick, Daniel Schriek, Saul Soto



Call or email us and we'll bring the Mobile Pet Adoptions Bus to your business or neighborhood!

602-249-6504

[llong@mail.maricopa.gov](mailto:llong@mail.maricopa.gov)

*Be sure to check out our web site every month to see what else is happening and where our Mobile Pet Adoptions Bus will be.*

<http://www.maricopa.gov/Pets/News/Calendar.aspx>

## Ways to Help the Animals

While MCACC was originally founded for the purpose of catching and killing stray animals to prevent the spread of rabies and other diseases, the population growth in Maricopa County has resulted in an ever increasing number of healthy and treatable dogs and cats looking to MCACC to find them homes. As a "special revenue fund" within Maricopa County, MCACC is responsible for generating funds for both its mandated and non-mandated services. However, as a County department, MCACC is unable to solicit donations.

By becoming a donor of your dollars, your time, or by holding a donation drive, you can help ensure that MCACC can provide the care and services that will ultimately make it possible for MCACC to reach its goal of eliminating the euthanasia of healthy and treatable pets by 2012.

Please send me information about the following

◇ How to Volunteer

◇ How to Donate

◇ Information on: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Yes, I would like to receive your email newsletter!

Mail to: MCACC Community Relations

2500 S. 27th Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85009

### ***Tune in and catch our animals on TV and the radio!***

- Every Saturday on Channel 12 at 8:40 a.m.
- Every 1st and 3rd Monday on Sonoran Living in Channel 15
- Every other Thursday on Channel 12 at 1:35 p.m.
- Every Friday at 7:15 a.m. on KDKB
- Every last Tuesday of the month on KOOL radio 94.5 FM



**Run in a sea of Santas!  
Timed run, Prizes, Christmas Bazaar, Santa's Pet Village**

**Freestone District Park, Gilbert  
SE Corner of Lindsay and Juniper  
Just South of Guadalupe**

**12k RUN or  
1.2k TEAM SLED RUN**

**December 12, 2009, 10:00 am**

**To register, call 480-609-3978 or visit [www.12krun.com](http://www.12krun.com)**

**MCACC has joined the social media revolution!**

Check out our videos on You Tube— <http://www.youtube.com/MaricopaAnimalCare>

Follow us on Twitter— <http://twitter.com/MCACCaz1>

Become our Friend on Facebook—MCACC Friend



**Save a life and become forever loved— come find your new furry friend at one of our shelters.**





Visit one our Animal Care Centers!

West Valley Care Center  
2500 S. 27th Ave.  
Phoenix, AZ 85009

East Valley Care Center  
2630 W. 8th St.  
Mesa, AZ 85201

Phone: 602-506-PETS (7387)

E-mail: [ahollis@mail.maricopa.gov](mailto:ahollis@mail.maricopa.gov)

We're on the web!

[www.pets.maricopa.gov](http://www.pets.maricopa.gov)

MCACC's new approach to delivering animal care and control services reflects the delicate balance that exists between animal welfare and animal control. We strive to be proactive and offer programs to prevent problems before they occur. It is our vision to reduce the dangers and nuisances caused by irresponsible pet ownership and to protect pets from abuse, neglect and homelessness.

Our mission is to promote and protect the health, safety and welfare of people and pets in Maricopa County.

MCACC offers a multitude of services to assist you and your pets.

- Adoption of cats and dogs
- Spay/Neuter programs
- Licensing
- Rabies vaccinations
- Lost and found shelter care
- Stray dog pick up
- Opportunities to volunteer and become foster care givers



## Friends of Animal Care and Control

Our mission is to end euthanasia of healthy and adoptable dogs and cats in our community by raising funds to support the special programs of Maricopa County Animal Care and Control.

P.O. Box 80739  
Phoenix, AZ 85060

602-626-5073

Visit us at: [www.azfaccs.org](http://www.azfaccs.org)

## Friends of Animal Care and Control Thrift Store



The FACCs thrift shop sells a wide variety of gently used items. Proceeds from the sales fund MCACC's valuable programs.

**FACCs Thrift Shop**  
12625 N. Cave Creek Road (North of Thunderbird)  
Phoenix, AZ 85022  
602-923-6914  
Store hours: Monday-Saturday 10am-4pm  
Sunday 11 am - 4 pm

Do you love animals? Do you have some items that you'd like to donate to charity? Please donate them to the FACCs thrift shop! The store is currently accepting the following gently used items:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| - Clothing, purses, jewelry and shoes                             | - Household items (lamps, linens, bedspreads) |
| - Dishes, glassware, utensils                                     | - Kitchen and office appliances               |
| - Furniture - indoor and outdoor                                  | - Computers, printers, software               |
| - Children's clothing and toys (no furniture or car seats please) | - Artwork                                     |
| - Books   | - Cell phones, PDA's                          |
| - Tools   |   |

FACC's mission is to end euthanasia of healthy and adoptable dogs and cats in our community by raising funds to support the programs of Maricopa County Animal Care and Control.

